

BRAVE Spartan Leaguers Chalfont St. Peter were knocked out of the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup at Loakes Park on Saturday by a blistering spell of power from Wycombe Wanderers.

In by far the worst conditions of the season, Wycombe produced no less than five goals in 11 minutes, including three inside two minutes, to emphasise a class gap as wide as the English Channel between the Isthmian and Spartan Leagues.

Poor Chalfont had no answer to the sheer pace of it all but to their great credit, they never gave up fighting and never once resorted to the rough stuff.

Their hopes must have risen before the match with the rain falling hard. Mud, they say, is a great leveller. It certainly wasn't on Saturday. The pitch cut up badly, especially in the middle but Wanderers were unperturbed. Three goals came in the first half and six more after the interval, when the Saints tired badly.

The Blues were superior in every department. Delaney and Rundle dominated the back. Williams, Gane and Jameson controlled the middle while Pritchard and his fellow front runners had a field day.

The pressure on Chalfont in the second half was continual and at one stage it seemed Wycombe would score with every move. But thanks to a trojan performance

by Mick Doherty, Saints managed to keep the score down to single figures.

Doherty received good support from fellow centre back Graham

The luck, it seemed was on Wycombe's side for a change.

Saints produced an occasional break with Ken Woolnough the instigator, but front runners Jeff

hat-trick later on.

But with Wanderers pouring forward, their ceaseless pressure just had to pay off in the end although few expected such a

by STUART EARP; Wycombe W. 9; Chalfont St. Peter 0

King but while every visitor gave 100 per cent, they were truly out-classed.

A bad foul by Dave Bullock restricted Chalfont after only five minutes, when the full back ploughed into Charlie Hopkins. He continued after treatment but soon came off for player-manager Brian Pettifer, who was given a torrid afternoon.

The injury certainly unsettled the Saints and after 13 minutes a terrible mistake by goalkeeper Doug Sutherland put Wycombe ahead. Receiving the ball from Hutchinson, Derek Gamblin spotted a wide gap and fired in a speculative shot which appeared to slow in the mud. Sutherland dived, but the ball slithered under his body and dribbled over the line.

Four minutes later Wycombe were two up. From the first corner, Rundle headed into the goalmouth and after a scramble in which the ball struck the crossbar, Rundle's drive was deflected home off Graham King.

So after 20 minutes Chalfont found themselves two goals adrift, to one mistake and a deflection.

Bunce and Derek Jones hardly got a sniff of the ball all afternoon.

Goal number three came in the 29th minute. After another corner Bullock sent a superb ball to Hutchinson whose cross was met first time by Pritchard. Sutherland's reflexes saved the powerful header but Tony Horseman snapped up the rebound and slotted home from point blank range.

In the 15 minutes before the interval it seemed Chalfont had weathered most of the storm. Wycombe, tending to bunch in midfield, went off the boil and a great run by Chalfont's Graham Avis, beating three defenders before John Maskell turned his shot for a corner, gave them some hope at half time.

For the first 20 minutes of the second period, Doherty's hard work held the Chalfont rearguard together—although there were some narrow escapes, Pritchard and Hutchinson both being thwarted by Sutherland. At this stage it seemed destined that the outstanding Pritchard would not find the net. Larry's perseverance, however, was rewarded with a

harvest of goals—five in the space of 11 minutes, in fact. It went like this:

GOAL NO. 4: From a corner on the top side, Pritchard back-headed the ball across goal. Keeper Sutherland managed to parry his effort but only as far as Delaney who swept it home (66 mins).

NO. 5: Graham King gave away a free kick which Horseman floated into the box for Pritchard to soar above the defence and nod home, giving Sutherland no chance.

NO. 6: Pritchard was again the scorer after a poor clearance from Chalfont, the ball coming out to Larry who took careful aim before rifling it home (75).

NO. 7: Rob Williams got into the scoring act beating the offside trap and having a free run to goal before lashing the ball past Sutherland (76).

NO. 8: Tony Amos, having come on as substitute for Alan Gane a minute earlier, wasted no time in getting his name onto the scoring books. Latching on to Hutchinson's astute through ball, he sprinted into the Chalfont area

before hammering a lethal left foot drive past the exhausted goalkeeper (77).

Poor Chalfont didn't know what hit them. The pressure was intense and the ball never out of their half of the field.

If anyone deserved another goal it was certainly Pritchard who never stopped working throughout the 90 minutes. Fittingly he completed his hat-trick when Amos' good running gave him the chance to race in and slip the ball past Sutherland with four minutes remaining.

By now Chalfont were visibly wilting as Wycombe's superior football left them breathless. Their frustration must have been considerable but they kept going well and it was a measure of their spirit that they almost pulled a consolation goal back when Ken Woolnough fired just wide in the closing seconds.

Wanderers, it seemed, were determined to make up for all their missed chances this season. Chalfont were unfortunate that they were the ones to suffer.

WYCOMBE: J. Maskell, D. Gamblin, I. Rundle, J. Delaney, D. Bullock, R. Williams, A. Gane (sub A. Amos 76 mins), K. Jameson, A. Horseman, L. Pritchard, J. Hutchinson. **CHALFONT:** D. Sutherland, C. Hopkins (sub B. Pettifer 12 mins), R. Patmore, M. Doherty, G. King, M. Dollard, K. Woolnough, G. Avis, J. Bunce, D. Fletcher, D. Jones.

Referee: R. C. Sibley.

Half-time: 3-0. Goalscorers (Wycombe): Gamblin (13), Rundle (17), Horseman (29), Delaney (66), Pritchard 3 (67, 75, 86), Williams (76), Amos (77).

Attendance 724.